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# Bush won't deny Sinatra offer

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WASHINGTON — Central Intelligence Director George Bush has prompted questions about his judgment by refusing to discuss a reported meeting with singer Frank Sinatra two months ago in New York.

Sinatra offered to be an amateur spy for the CIA and keep Bush's agency up to date on his worldwide travels and sessions with foreign royalty, the Boston Globe has reported.

The story broke as other reports linked Sinatra with crime syndicate hoodlums and not long after disclosures that Sinatra introduced the late President John F. Kennedy to Judith Exner.

Mrs. Exner has since claimed she had an affair with Kennedy while he was President and intends to write a book about it. She also was reported to be romantically involved with Sam (Momo) Giancana, Chicago hoodlum murdered last summer.



Sinatra



Bush

BUSH, questioned about the report during an appearance at the American Society of Newspaper Editors meeting, refused to confirm or deny the alleged meeting with Sinatra.

"I might or might not have met" him, Bush said.

But, in a remark that tended to confirm the newspaper report, he added:

"If an entertainer wants to support the CIA, if any American wants to offer help, we'll accept it."

The only comment attributed to Sinatra came from his press agents, quoting the singer as saying: "I also offered to be Howard Hughes' heir — but

evidently he turned me down."

THE BOSTON Globe story said Sinatra volunteered to tip off the CIA about his contacts with the shah of Iran or members of the British Royal family, among others.

The Sinatra-Bush meeting occurred last February at the New York apartment of Johnathan Bush, brother of the CIA director, according to the story.

Rep. Morgan F. Murphy (D-Ill.), a member of the House intelligence Committee, said the report, if true, raised questions about Bush's qualifications to run the CIA.

"If Sinatra's going to volunteer some patriotic service, that's all well and good," Murphy said.

"But we should be operating with trained professionals and not with people outside the CIA who cannot be subject to congressional oversight."

"The House should set up an oversight committee right now so we don't read about this

The Blue-eyed Knight.  
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sort of stuff second-hand in the newspapers," Murphy added.

BUSH ALSO told the editors that he had just returned from a secret trip to three countries — apparently in Europe — where some CIA agents whose names have been published "are really living in risk — and that's wrong, wrong."

He declined to say what countries he had visited but said he was encouraged by the quality of the CIA staff overseas.

He did disclose that he had attended a Bicentennial event at Gifford Courthouse National Military Park near Greensboro, N.C., last March 14 at the invitation of a Democratic congressman, later identified as Rep. Richardson Preyer (D-N.C.).

BUSH ASSURED the ASNE audience that past abuses in the CIA — such as plotting assassinations, opening of mail, spying on Americans and employment of news reporters as agents — were all in the past.

It was the first time a CIA director had addressed the newspaper editors' convention since former CIA Chief Richard M. Helms spoke before the ASNE in 1971.

At that time, Helms defended the agency, saying: "The nation must to a degree take it on faith that we too are honorable men devoted to her service."

## The Blue-eyed Knight

Frank Sinatra apparently has something new under his skin. According to the brother of George Bush, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, the crooner is itching to offer his services to the CIA.

It's not quite clear what Old Blue Eyes had in mind, but it supposedly involved the use of his contacts among high and mighty around the world.

One thing's for sure: He'd have to switch his concern from cover charges to just plain cover. His face is not exactly obscure. It wouldn't be the first time the CIA had supplied phony noses and wigs.

But even still, there's that well-known voice. It's hard to see how devious a man could be wearing a Groucho disguise and talking through a handkerchief.

Now we know what Sinatra meant all these years when he sang something about black magic having